

Message Text

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12

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AID-20 AGR-20 SWF-02 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00

OMB-01 DRC-01 (ISO) W

----- 046550

R 190715Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2100

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY ROME

US MISSION GENEVA 061

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOGADISCIO 1142

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SO ECON SOCI

SUBJ: DROUGHT QUESTION IN SOMALIA

REF: MOGADISCIO 0924

1. SUMMARY. LOCAL WFP REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS THAT SPRING RAINS WERE UNEVELY DISTRIBUTED, AND CERTAIN AGRICULTURAL AREAS RECEIVED LESS THAN NORMAL. SIGNIFICANT SHORTFALL IN SUMMER GRAIN CROP IS EXPECTED. GOVERNMENT GRAIN STOCKS REPORTEDLY SUFFICIENT TO MAKE UP SHORTFALL DURING NEXT FEW MONTHS, BUT FUTHER GRAIN IMPORTS WILL PROBABLY BE NEEDED LATER IN YEAR. HOWEVER, GSDR HAS NOT YET REQUESTED FURTHER FOOD ASSISTANCE FROM WFP IN MOGADISCIO. END SUMMARY.

2. LOCAL WORLD FOOD PROGRAM REPRESENTATIVE, OUF1, IN DISCUSSION
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WITH EMBOFF, REPORTS THAT SPRING RAINS IN SOMALIA THIS YEAR

WERE UNEVELY DISTRIBUTED. WHILE SOME AREAS HAD MORE THAN ENOUGH, AND RAIN WAS GENERALLY NORMAL THROUGHOUT NORTHERN PART OF COUNTRY, IMPORTANT AGRICULTURAL AREAS NEAR SHEBELLI RIVER IN CENTER AND JUBA RIVER IN SOUTH RECEIVED SUBSTANTIALLY LESS THAN NORMAL RAIN-FALL. SUMMER HARVEST OF STAPLE GRAINS, I.E. MAIZE AND SORGHUM, IN THESE AREAS WILL THEREFORE BE SUBSTANTIALLY LESS THAN USUAL. ALSO, NEXT CROP IN NORTH WILL DEPEND ON ADEQUACY OF AUGUST-SEPTEMBER "LIGHT RAINS," IN ADDITION TO SPRING "HEAVY RAINS" WHICH HAVE ALREADY FALLEN IN NORMAL QUANTITY.

3. OUFİ REPORTS THAT GSDR OFFICIALS SAY THEY HAVE SUFFICIENT STOCKS OF GRAIN IN COUNTRY TO MAKE UP FOR REDUCED HARVEST IN AREAS OF CENTER AND SOUTH MENTIONED ABOVE. THEREFORE, OFFICIALS SAY, NO FOOD EMERGENCY IS IMMINENT. GSDR HAS NOT REQUESTED FURTHER FOOD ASSISTANCE FROM WFP HERE, BUT OUFİ BELIEVES IMPORTS OF STAPLE GRAINS, MAIZE AND SORGHUM, FROM SOME SOURCE WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY BE NECESSARY LATER THIS YEAR DESPITE GSDR EMPHASIS ON ACHIEVING SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN THESE ITEMS.

4. OUFİ SAYS HE HAS REPORTED ALONG ABOVE LINES TO FAO IN ROME. EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE INQUIRIES ON THE SUBJECT, AND REPORT TO DEPARTMENT AS FURTHER INFORMATION BECOMES AVAILABLE.
KIRK

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